

VIA E-MAIL

October 3, 2019

Nicolas A. Mitchell

Investigation Counsel

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Democratic Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

This letter was sent this week by John M. Dowd, who was President Trump's lawyer during the Mueller investigation, to the House Intelligence Committee. It informs the Committee ... wait. Is that Comic Sans?

Yes. Yes it is. It is indeed Comic Sans, perhaps the least credible font available.

Subject: Your letters of September 30, 2019, to Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman

Dowd is writing to tell the Committee that his new clients, associates of Rudy Giuliani, will not comply with its deadline for producing documents.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

This letter will confirm our recent telephone conversation of October 1, 2019, in response to the Committees' extensive and detailed letters which the Committees unfortunately caused to be published on the internet in violation of all norms of fairness and decency.

In that call, I advised you of my anticipated retainer by Lev Parnas and Igor Frumas. I now represent Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman with respect to the alleged impeachment investigation referenced in your letters of September 30, 2019.

The letter also tells us in passing that Dowd has apparently never been on the internet, if he believes this violated its "norms of fairness and decency."

And ironically, by using Comic Sans, Dowd has violated the far more deeply entrenched norm that one who wishes to be taken seriously will not use this clownish font.

I will meet with Mr. Parnas and Mr. Fruman beginning this weekend to get acquainted with them, the facts and documents requested in your detailed letter in order to prepare a response to the Committees' requests. This eff

Here, Dowd—who was overheard loudly discussing the Mueller investigation at a DC food court in 2012—explains the importance of the attorney-client privilege.

Be advised that M connection with his representation of President Trump. Mr. Parnas and Mr. Furman have also been represented by Mr. Giuliani in connection with their personal and business affairs. They also assisted Joseph DiGenova and Victoria Toensing in their law practice. Thus, certain information you seek in your September 30, 2019, letter is protected by the attorney-client, attorney work product and other privileges. Given the breadth and detail of your request for information, an appropriate privilege review cannot reasonably be conducted by October 7, 2019, the date you have set to produce documents and communications. The amount of time required is difficult to determine, but we are happy to keep you advised of our progress and engage in a rolling production of non-privileged documents.

Your request for documents and communications is overly broad and unduly burdensome. The subject matter of your requests is well beyond the scope of your inquiry. This, in combination with requiring immediate responses, leads me to the inescapable conclusion that the Democratic Committee members' intent is to harass, intimidate and embarrass my clients.

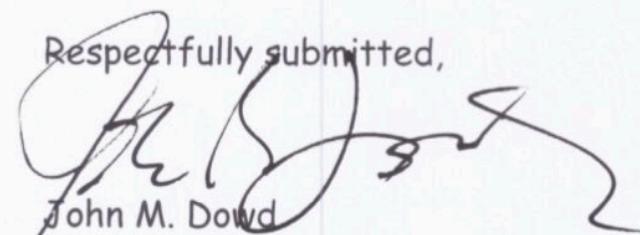
This is the part where he tells Congress what the proper scope of its inquiry is.

The "Committees" and its Democratic members are well aware that my clients are entitled to retain counsel and counsel is entitled to an adequate period of time to get acquainted with the clients, review documents, consult with the clients and prepare the clients for any

potential testimony and document production. Requesting production of documents within seven days and requiring testimony within fifteen days is unreasonable

Dowd might actually have a point regarding the seven-day deadline, if it weren't so important to get the nuclear codes out of the grubby clutches of Donald J. Trump ASAP.

Considering the important factual questions and legal issues attendant to the alleged whistleblower, your investigation, your authority and requests for information, your charter should be amended to exhibit some semblance of due process, fairness, justice and common decency.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Dowd
Counsel to Messrs. Parnas and Fruman

This last paragraph doesn't really make a lot of sense and seems like obvious bluster. For future reference, bluster rarely impresses anyone. Especially if you bluster in Comic Sans.